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## TO LOOK INTO NEW FORM GVT. FOR THE CITY

Council To Join Investigation of Chamber Of Commerce

## MUNICIPAL XMAS TREE ADVOCATED

Gas Ordinance Is Carried Over Mayor's Veto Other News

In line with the action taken recently by the chamber of commerce—examining the possibilities for betterment in a change of government for the city of Mt. Vernon—city council, at its regular meeting Monday evening, gave official recognition to the movement by adopting a motion authorizing the appointment of a committee of three, to work with a committee of a like number from the chamber of commerce in going still deeper into the benefits to be obtained by a change from the present form of government. The combined committee will appoint nine additional members.

A report from R. P. Sockman, a committee of one appointed several weeks ago by President Clutter of council, recommended that the legislative body take the above action.

Prior to the reception of the report and the adoption of a motion contained therein, a general discussion was launched, President Clutter speaking first and calling attention to the inefficiency of the present system of government.

J. J. Fultz read a treatise on preferential voting, showing how it had worked out satisfactorily in Grand Junction, Colorado.

Secretary Leroy G. Mayer of the chamber of commerce referred to the action taken by that organization in appointing a committee to investigate various proposed forms of government. He spoke highly of the action of council in undertaking to look into the matter in conjunction with a

chamber of commerce committee.

Rev. L. W. Mulhane, a member of a committee consisting, in addition to himself, of W. P. Bogardus and H. C. Davis, appointed by the old board of trade, told of the experience of this committee, stating that, for a period of six months an investigation was made and the results were embodied in a report which is still in existence. Rev. Mulhane favors the plan of government now in vogue in Springfield, O. He sketched this briefly, pointing out that the solicitor, auditor and treasurer act as checks upon the city manager.

Dr. E. C. Beggs told of conversations he had last week in Dayton with the secretary and clerk of the Greater Dayton association. He spoke of the open enthusiasm in Dayton over the city manager plan of government and cited numerous instances where almost unbelievable economies had been accomplished through it.

Judge Frank O. Levering pointed out that the proposition to change the form of city government reflects not at all upon present or past officials, but is merely designed to introduce greater efficiency and economy, as well as responsibility. He referred to the present form as "top-heavy."

William M. Banning, former president of city council, gave some interesting statistics in connection with the operating expense of the city of Mt. Vernon. He spoke of the fact that the city gets, but one-third of the money collected in taxes, while one-half of this amount goes toward the redemption of bonds. The various advantages of commission form of government were outlined by Mr. Banning.

A vote was taken on the motion to designate a council committee to investigate and the same carried unanimously.

**MUNY XMAS TREE PLANNED**  
A municipal Christmas tree, the money to buy and place which is to be raised by public subscription, was a timely item of discussion and was introduced by President Clutter.

It was suggested that the money invested in the tree might better be distributed among the poor, but on the other hand it was pointed out that the municipal tree would do much toward the fostering and stirring up of a true Christmas spirit.

Council went on record as in favor of a tree. In case one is erected on the public square, efforts will be put forth to have the festival association, the children of the public and parochial schools, as well as other organizations, sing Christmas carols and sacred music under it on nights of Christmas week.

**MAYOR'S VETO DISREGARDED**  
Councilman Pfouts reported that Mayor Mitchell would neither assign any reason for his veto of the gas ordinance nor make any suggestions as to changes that would make the measure a more popular one with him, so council took up the ordinance and passed it over his veto, going to the extent of playing safe by giving it three readings under suspension of the rules.

The vote was unanimous. The ordinance provides for a rate of 25 cents a thousand for three years and 27 cents for the succeeding two years, allowing a minimum charge of 50 cents.

**SEWER REPORT IS READ**  
The report of City Engineer Walter S. Anderson and Service Director C. G. Snow on the Wooster avenue sewer was read. It stated that the work would necessitate 200 feet of sewer, with eight laterals and three manholes. The report also commented upon the proposed Park-Burgess-Pleasant sewer. It was received and filed.

**BIG ECONOMY EFFECTED**  
An interesting letter was read from Ray S. Blinn, formerly city engineer of the city of Mt. Vernon and now city manager of the village of Westerville, telling of a large amount of money saved by changing from steam to electricity in the pumping of city water. A force of three men was cut down to one man, while a monthly expense of \$285 for oil, fuel, wages, etc., was reduced \$170, with prospects for it running even less than this.

**CITY REMOVE DEAD TREE**  
City Solicitor Koons and Councilman Weaver spoke of a large tree, now dead, standing in the middle of Harnwell street which residents of that section of the city desire removed, chiefly on account of the fact that its dead limbs may fall at any time, injuring somebody. The service director was asked to look into the matter.

**PAHL LATERAL DISCONNECTED**  
Following the report of Service Director Snow that the Pahl sewer lateral has been disconnected, council passed an ordinance, which has long hung fire, provided for the cancellation of certain assessments against the Pahl property.

**TO INVESTIGATE FURTHER**  
An ordinance was read providing for the transfer of \$20 from the mayor's stationery fund to the mayor's incidental fund, and then referred to the finance committee. Council was uninformed as to the purpose of the transfer.

**THREE WEEKS' VACATION**  
In view of Christmas and New Year's day both falling on Monday, council adjourned until the second Monday in January.

**BIRTHS**  
A son was born Monday night to Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Phillips of Buckeye City.

A son was born Tuesday afternoon to Sheriff-elect and Mrs. Walter B. Mosholder.

**CALLED TO ZANESVILLE**  
W. P. Ralston of North Mulberry street went to Zanesville Tuesday on account of the death of Mrs. Ralston's father, W. L. Atkinson, of that city. Mr. Atkinson died Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock. Mrs. Ralston was at the bedside of her father at the time of his death, having gone to Zanesville Monday.

Mrs. Emma Layman of Utica spent Tuesday in this city with relatives.

## Lodge Elections

**Red Men**  
Mohican Tribe, No. 69, Improved Order of Red Men, elected the following officers Monday evening:  
Sachsen—Robert M. Grossman.  
Senior Sagamore—Charles W. Van-Wicklen.  
Junior Sagamore—Albert Reiman.  
Prophet—Samuel Hantman.  
Keeper of Records—Alfred West.  
Keeper of Wampum—L. F. Strang.  
Trustee, three years—Albert Reiman.

**Daughters of St. George**  
Lady Gladstone Lodge, No. 75, Daughters of St. George, installed the following officers Monday evening:  
Past Pres.—Mrs. Mary Somers.  
Worthy Pres.—Miss Nellie Higgins.  
Worthy Vice Pres.—Mrs. Mary Simmons.  
Secretary—Mrs. Emily Higgins.  
Treasurer—Mrs. Sarah Fleming.  
First Conductress—Mrs. Nellie Sleeman.  
Second Conductress—Mrs. Eliza Brining.  
Inside Guard—Mrs. Harriet McDonald.  
Outside Guard—Mrs. Elsie Lybarger.  
Trustee—Mrs. Eliza Brining.

**Household of Ruth**  
Household of Ruth, No. 568, elected the following officers Monday evening:  
Noble Governor—Hannah Frye.  
Vice Noble Governor—Viola Booker.  
Most Noble Governor—Anna Reddix.  
Past Noble Governor—Anna Newman.

**Prelate—Jane May.**  
Worthy Recorder—Gertrude Jones.  
Treasurer—Gertrude Rouse.  
Counsel—Mary E. Simmons.  
Trustees—Mary Payne, Joseph Booker and Olive Croston.

**Auditing Com.—Mary Payne, Hannah Frye and Anna Reddix.**  
Right Senior Steward—Mary Payne.  
Left Senior Steward—Anna Smith.  
Right Junior Steward—Lydia Jackson.

**Left Junior Steward—S. J. Simmons.**  
Chamberlain—Sara Jackson.  
Shepherd—Lena McGee.  
Usher—Sara Parker.

**L. C. B. A.**  
St. Irene's L. C. B. A., No. 912, elected the following officers Monday evening:

**President—Grace Smith.**  
Past President—Mae Brewer.  
1st Vice-Pres.—Katherine Nolan.  
2nd Vice-Pres.—Mrs. Lucy Fitz.  
Recorder—Eleanor Durbin.  
Assistant—Onna Selbold.

**Fin. Secy.—Katherine McDonough.**  
Treasurer—Helen Henry.  
Marshal—Mrs. Mame Gahagan.  
Guard—Mrs. Mary Henley.

**Trustees—Mrs. Mame Gahagan, Mrs. William Districk, Mrs. Mame McDonough, Pauline Hunt and Helen Smith.**

**Gambler Knights of Pythias**  
Gambler Lodge, No. 760, Knights of Pythias, has elected the following officers:

**Chancellor—Commander—L. C. Welch.**  
Vice Chancellor—L. H. Jacobs.  
Prelate—Harrison Dial.  
M. of W.—Robert Ralston.  
M. at A.—J. R. Brown.  
I. G.—Anthony Helen.  
O. G.—Charles Benedict.  
K. of R. and S.—C. B. Colwill.  
M. of Fin.—H. M. Jacobs.  
M. of Ex.—C. G. Singer.  
Representative—C. B. Colwill.  
Alternate—Edward Gorsuch.

**S. of V. Auxiliary**  
Sons of Veterans Auxiliary, No. 18, elected the following officers Tuesday evening:

**President—Katherine Reese.**  
Vice-Pres.—Flora Bunn.  
Trustees—Blanche Appleton, Adda Hampshire and Lida Severns.  
Treasurer—Mary Clements.  
Chaplain—Lida Severns.  
Guide—Gladys Silcott.  
Assistant—Mame Talmadge.  
Patriotic Instructor—Margaret Headington.

**I. G.—Byrdess Levering.**  
O. G.—Adda Hampshire.

**THE "THIRD SEX"**  
Chicago, Dec. 13.—The "third sex," according to Dr. Bertha Van Hoesen of Chicago has been evolved. It comes from the feminine half of the race.

"A great many girls are discovering that their natures are not at all domestic and that they have no spark of the normal desire to marry and rear children," said Dr. Van Hoesen today. "The balance of power which in their sisters goes into the sex life, in these girls seems to have been added instead to their mental make-up."

"The new individual, who will be of a neuter gender, will have more time to cultivate her—or its—brain than will the woman who gives up part of her time to child-bearing. She will be less emotional. Romance and sex affection will not influence her."

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## DEATHS

**James M. Hines**  
James M. Hines died at his home, 118 West Pleasant street, Monday evening at 8 o'clock after an illness of about 19 weeks. Death came as a result of a long siege of heart trouble. The deceased was an elderly man and was a retired farmer. He is survived by four children, Lemuel of Warnock, Clayton of Massillon and Mrs. H. P. Bowman and Mrs. E. J. Smith of this city.

**Mrs. C. A. Paque**  
Mrs. Anna Paque died Tuesday morning at 8 o'clock at her home, 921 West High street, after an illness of about three weeks. The deceased was 39 years of age and is survived by her husband, Christian A. Paque, and four daughters, Helena, Hilda, Leona and Blanche, and one son, Kenneth, all of whom are at home. The funeral at the late home Thursday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock. Rev. J. A. Long officiating.

**Charles D. Smith**  
Funeral services, conducted by Rev. G. F. Smythe and Rev. A. S. Winslow of Gambler, were held Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock at the Valley church for Charles D. Smith of Howard township who died Saturday evening at 6 o'clock after a brief illness. The deceased was 75 years old and leaves a wife and two children, Mrs. W. H. Wagner of Monroe Mills and Abraham Smith of Mt. Vernon.

**Mrs. H. E. Watson**  
Lock, Dec. 12.—Word was received here today of the death of Mrs. H. E. Watson, 65 years of age, who was born and raised in this place and moved to Newark only six years previous to this time. Mrs. Watson died yesterday at 8 o'clock in the evening. The message did not state the cause of Mrs. Watson's demise, but the attack which took her was probably very sudden, as she has been in excellent health all of her life until the time of her death.

The deceased is survived by one daughter, Mrs. C. C. Riley of Lock, one sister, Mrs. Angeline Shultz of this place, and three brothers, James and John Feashan of Newark. The funeral at the M. E. church of Lock Thursday morning at 11 o'clock. Interment in the Lock cemetery.

**James W. Freeman**  
James W. Freeman died Wednesday morning at 12:15 o'clock at his home on South Jackson street after an illness of two months of hardening of the arteries. He was born in Mt. Vernon Nov. 11, 1838, and was, accordingly, 78 years of age. He united with the Methodist church when young, afterwards joining the Congregational church, at the time Rev. Mr. Monroe was pastor here. He is survived by a wife, Mrs. Emma Freeman, two sons, E. E. and G. A. Freeman of Chicago, Ill., and two daughters, Mrs. Minnie Tudor of Mt. Vernon and Mrs. W. H. Thompson of Canton. A brother, T. A. Freeman of Toledo, also survives. The funeral at the late home Saturday morning at 10:30 o'clock. Burial in Homer cemetery.

**John P. Hickey**  
Word was received here Tuesday of the death of John P. Hickey of Trenton, N. J., formerly a resident of this city. Mr. Hickey died Tuesday after an illness extending over about one year from tuberculosis. The deceased was raised in Knox county and was well-known in this vicinity. Mr. Hickey, while in this city, was a glassblower at the old Hayes glass plant which was in operation in this city, but later shut down. It was about two years and a half ago that

Mr. Hickey departed for Trenton, N. J., where he has made his home since then. While in this city he was one of the most active members of Hiawatha Lodge, No. 824, L. O. O. M., and was very much liked by his brother Moose. The deceased was 38 years of age and leaves a widow. The funeral will be held in Trenton, but the date is not known here.

## CHORUS ORGANIZED

BY COLORED YOUNG PEOPLE; OFFICERS ELECTED

A community chorus has been recently perfected among colored young people of the city, the initial meeting having been held at the home of Mrs. Dana Hill when the following organization was effected:

President—Mrs. Viola Booker.  
Vice President—Dana Jones.  
Secretary—Samuel Payne.  
Assistant—Mrs. Cathryn Trusa.  
Pianist—Mrs. Ethel Reynolds.  
Assistant—Miss Gail Blake.  
Musical Instructor—Mrs. Vera Payne.

Assistant—Mrs. Ben McGee.  
Committee on By-Laws—Mrs. Gertrude Jones, Mrs. Bessie Simmons, Mrs. Ella Newsum, Miss Helen Stiles, and Miss Bessie Carter.

The chorus plans to produce the cantata, "Jephtha's Daughter" in the month of January.

The purpose of the organization is to increase in its members the knowledge of the art of music and singing. An especial program will be given each meeting. A study of the life of Samuel Coleridge Taylor, the negro musician, will be taken up.

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